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Addendum

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1. Airports Council International

(Special consultative status granted 1974)

Introduction

The Airports Council International (ACI) is the association of the world's airports. It is a non-profit organization, the prime purpose of which is to foster cooperation among its member airports and with other partners in world aviation, including governmental, airline and aircraft manufacturing organizations.

Through this cooperation, ACI makes a significant contribution to providing the travelling public with an air transport system that is safe, secure, efficient and environmentally compatible. Before the establishment of ACI in January 1991, the world's airports were represented on the international scene by the Airport Associations Coordinating Council (AACC), which had been created in 1970 by the then three international airport associations: the Airport Operators Council International (AOCI); the International Civil Airports Association (ICAA); and the Western European Airports Association (WEAA). The decision to create ACI, which incorporated the previous airport associations and succeeded AACC, was taken in 1989.

The broad areas of activity of ACI include: airport safety; airport planning, design and operation; aviation security; airport economics; facilitation and services; aviation environmental protection; and airport information technology. ACI has observer status with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and is in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council. It also maintains active working relations with numerous intergovernmental and international non-governmental organizations. ACI counts 554 members operating almost 1,500 airports in 168 countries and territories. In 2001, ACI member airports handled 3.4 billion passengers and 67 million tons of freight and mail.

Cooperation with the United Nations and the specialized agencies

ACI maintains close cooperation with ICAO. During the period under review, ACI actively participated in some 50 ICAO worldwide and regional meetings and contributed through its experts to the work of numerous ICAO panels, committees and study groups. ACI is represented on the following ICAO bodies: Committees on Aviation Environmental Protection, Unlawful Interference and Future Air Navigation Systems; Panels on Visual Aids, Aviation Security, Facilitation, Statistics, Airport Economics, Dangerous Goods and Air Traffic Management Operational Concept, and Regulation of Air Transport Services; and Study Groups on Aircraft Classification Number, Airport Design, Economics of Noise Restrictions, and Frangible Aids. ACI keeps its membership regularly informed of ICAO activities. The cooperation between ACI and ICAO is described in greater detail in the ACI annual reports.

In addition to ICAO, ACI maintains contacts on topics of mutual concern with other specialized agencies and organizations within the United Nations system, among them: the International Labour Organization (ILO), the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). Liaison is also maintained with the World Trade Organization and the World Tourism Organization.

During the period 1998-2001, ACI was represented at the following meetings of specialized agencies:

1998	April	ICAO Committee on Aviation Environmental Protection	Montreal
	September/October	ICAO Assembly	Montreal
1999	April	ICAO AVSEC Panel	Montreal
2000	May/June	ITU World Radiocommunication Conference	Istanbul
	June	ICAO Conference on the Economics of Airports and Air Navigation Services	
2001	January	ICAO Committee on Aviation Environmental Protection	Montreal
	April	ICAO Colloquium on Environmental Aspects of Aviation	Montreal
	September/October	ICAO Assembly	Montreal
	October	ILO Informal Think Tank on the Impact of 11 September Events on Civil Aviation	Geneva
	December	ICAO CAEP/6 Steering Group Meeting	São Paulo
2002	January	ILO Tripartite Meeting on Civil Aviation	Geneva
	January	WHO Meeting on International Health Regulations	Geneva
	February	ICAO Ministerial Conference on Aviation Security	Montreal
	April	ICAO Facilitation Panel	Montreal
	September	ICAO CAEP/6 Steering Group Meeting	Paris

Economic and Social Council activities of direct concern to airport operators are discussed at the biannual meetings of the ACI Governing Board. Pertinent information is transmitted to the membership whenever necessary. ACI representation at international forums is assured by secretariat staff and experts from member airports. These experts are selected from a cross-section of airports in all parts of the world, thus allowing for a beneficial exchange of experience.

Cooperation with other international organizations

Apart from the United Nations organizations and international governmental organizations, ACI cooperates with a large number of international non-governmental organizations. First and foremost are the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and the International Federation of Air Line Pilots Associations (IFALPA), the World Customs Organization (WCO), the International Federation of

Air Traffic Controllers' Associations (IFATCA), the International Coordinating Council of Aerospace Industries Associations (ICCAIA), the International Council of Aircraft Owner and Pilot Associations (IAOPA), the International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations (FIATA) and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). ACI is also a member of the International Industry Working Group (IIWG). This group, comprising representatives of ACI, IATA, ICCAIA and the ICAO secretariat, is entrusted with inter-industry studies on a variety of technical matters, with a view to tackling common problems, and so improving the design and development of both aircraft and airports.

Publications

ACI publishes Annual Reports, a Policy Handbook which is regularly updated, a magazine, a newsletter, traffic statistics, technical documents, position papers and press releases.

Conclusion

During the period under review, ACI presented the coordinated views of its member airports on the international scene, and directed its efforts towards promoting the harmonious and orderly development of international civil aviation.

2. Centre de recherches et de promotion pour la sauvegarde des sites et monuments historiques en Afrique

(General consultative status granted 1998)

The Centre de recherches et de promotion pour la sauvegarde des sites et monuments historiques en Afrique is a non-governmental organization of international scope in terms of the range of its African stations and the manner in which it has grouped them together, as well as of its organizational structure, which comprises a headquarters in Senegal (Dakar), eight African subregional offices and five continental representative bureaux.

In its capacity as an NGO with general consultative status, the Centre de recherches et de promotion pour la sauvegarde des sites et monuments historiques en Afrique is a coordinating structure for national, subregional and continental councils concerned with historical sites and monuments whose Higher Council is chaired by the President of the NGO.

The Centre de recherches et de promotion pour la sauvegarde des sites et monuments historiques en Afrique has broad experience of participating in and coordinating African policies for safeguarding the movable and immovable cultural heritage, and of assisting States in establishing administrative structures for protecting and conserving the heritage (historical sites and monuments).

In fact, issues concerning the cultural heritage are included in investment project evaluations in the area of the environment with the aim of ensuring that the principal cultural resources are protected against the negative effects of development projects.

The rich and varied cultural heritage of Africa is expressed through a wide range of artistic achievements and objects. Cultural products are conserved in palaeontological, archaeological, historical and sacred sites as well as in museums and residences and in the daily lives of populations.

Our institution came into being in 1983 and established its headquarters in Dakar with the construction and equipping of its complex.

It was accredited in 1985 with the Organization of African Unity, which included its Plan of Action for Africa in the OAU Plan of Action for Development of African Cultural Industries.

The Centre's Plan of Action for Africa is to make a general inventory of Africa's most representative historical sites and monuments and promote them at the international level.

The element of this Plan of Action dealing with the restoration of the architectural heritage covers habitat issues and the coordinated renovation of major historical centres, as well as the environmental aspects of natural sites.

In 1998, the Centre de recherches et de promotion pour la sauvegarde des sites et monuments historiques en Afrique was granted general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

Although its experts have worked for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in a consultancy capacity since 1975, the NGO began an official working and cooperative relationship with UNESCO only in 2002. The UNESCO NGO Section in Paris put our NGO in touch with a number of specialized institutions working in the area of protecting the heritage, particularly the UNESCO office in Dakar, the Senegal National Commission for UNESCO, the International Council of Museums (ICOM), the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), the Culture Sector (CLT)/World Heritage Committee (WHC)/Africa (AFR) Unit of the UNESCO Division of Cultural Heritage

The Centre de recherches et de promotion pour la sauvegarde des sites et monuments historiques en Afrique contributed to the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), held in Istanbul, Turkey, in 1996, through the good offices of the Ministry of Urbanism and Housing of Senegal.

Likewise, the Centre de recherches et de promotion pour la sauvegarde des sites et monuments historiques en Afrique — through the Ministry of the Environment of Senegal — entered into a working relationship with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) regarding a large biological diversity project launched in Ferlo in northern Senegal over an area of 50,000 hectares. This project concerns conservation of fauna and flora.

The Centre de recherches et de promotion pour la sauvegarde des sites et monuments historiques en Afrique, which devoted its entire initial budget to building its headquarters in Dakar and setting up its African and continental offices, is now considering opening offices in New York, Geneva and Vienna, and cooperating with the various United Nations offices in those cities.

However, thanks to the proximity of these continental offices, the Centre de recherches et de promotion pour la sauvegarde des sites et monuments historiques en Afrique has managed to acquire a number of documents on the work of the United Nations through its own representatives and through the Conseil des Organisations Non-Gouvernmentales d'Appui au Développement (CONGAD) in Senegal.

Objectives

Thousands of cultural sites have been identified in Africa, often in coastal zones, river basins or along major transport routes. Several sites remain unknown to the outside world. Archaeological studies carried out in connection with environmental project evaluations can provide relevant information about the nature and distribution of man's past activity in the region. This kind of study has been carried out in, for example, the Volta basin, in the area affected by the Kafue dam in Zambia, as part of the Lesotho plateau irrigation project and the Tuli road project in Botswana. The UNESCO Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage has been ratified by 28 African countries. Under it, international assistance can be provided to Governments to facilitate the protection of sites listed as World Heritage Sites. Currently, the World Heritage Sites in Africa comprise the royal palaces of Abomey in Benin; the rock-hewn churches of Ethiopia; Asante traditional buildings in Ghana; the old towns of Djenné, Timbuktu and the Cliff of Bandiagara in Mali; the island of Mozambique in Mozambique; the island of Gorée in Senegal; the ruins of Kilwa Kisiwani and Songo Mnara in the United Republic of Tanzania; and the ruins of Great Zimbabwe and Khami in Zimbabwe.

In the planning of development projects, potential cultural heritage issues should be taken into account at every stage in the project cycle. In the very early stages of project design, an environmental study should be undertaken to determine whether there are issues related to the cultural heritage that have to be addressed.

The range of activities of the Centre de recherches et de promotion pour la sauvegarde des sites et monuments historiques en Afrique throughout Africa and in the world in general are targeted at humanitarian, socio-cultural and economic objectives.

They are chiefly in support of basic development, with the participation of the population in initiatives which are taken on its behalf and in the context of sustainable development. They are designed to safeguard the movable and immovable heritage of mankind, protect biological diversity, enable the least advantaged strata of the population to gain access to housing, promote the status of women, educate children and make them aware of the value of the heritage and its place among the values of civilization, combat drugs and protect children, combat racism in all its forms, and promote human rights education.

A large project to draw up and promote an inventory of the heritage of Africa as a whole is currently under way in collaboration with OAU, UNESCO and UNDP; the results will be posted on a web site.

Publication of a review on the heritage of Africa is in progress.

Historical monographs on the heritage of Africa (historical and archaeological sites and monuments) concerning African States are being prepared.

Centres are being set up for training antiquities conservationists.

Legal texts are being prepared, in collaboration with the General Secretariat of OAU, now the African Union, on the harmonization of African legislation in the area of heritage protection.

In its relations with the United Nations and in the context of its general consultative status, the NGO is seeking to promote those principles which it considers can contribute to safeguarding the heritage of mankind in general and of Africa in particular.

Through international scientific cooperation and within its Higher Council for Cultural Heritage, the Centre de recherches et de promotion pour la sauvegarde des sites et monuments historiques en Afrique is harmonizing its efforts by creating a synergy for the conservation and protection of the heritage of mankind, undertaking the rehabilitation of the heritage of historic sites, producing renovated units to enable the most disadvantaged levels of the population to gain access to housing and, through its large biological diversity conservation projects, creating endogenous development through the conservation of local flora and fauna.

3. European Federation of Women Working in the Home

(Special consultative status granted 1998)

Aims and objectives

The European Federation of Women Working in the Home (FEFAF) seeks recognition of the economic and social value of the unremunerated work of taking care of the family and bringing up children.

For women who choose, have chosen or wish to choose as their priority activity the care of their children or of their elderly or disabled parents, FEFAF wants:

(a) The freedom to choose family work without penalty and, in order to secure a better match between family life and professional life, the assurance that women's lives need not be modelled on those of men;

(b) Specific statistics on the economic and social value of unremunerated work done full-time or part-time within the family;

(c) The recognition of social rights linked to the time devoted to the family, irrespective of employment status, in particular:

(i) the right to initial or continuing training;

(ii) the opportunity to re-enter the labour market;

(iii) a fair and equitable retirement pension;

(d) The experience gained through unremunerated family work to be considered as qualification for re-entry into the labour market.

FEFAF's participation in the work of the Council

The participation comprised:

- 1995: participation of one member of the Governing Council (GC) in the Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing.
- 1996: participation of one member of the GC in the annual session of the Commission on the Status of Women.
- 1997: participation of one member of the GC in the annual session of the Commission on the Status of Women.
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- 1999: participation in the annual session of the Commission on the Status of Women.
- 2000: participation of one member of the GC and of members in the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", and in the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world".
- 2001: financial problems did not permit participation in the session of the Commission on the Status of Women or in the special session of the General Assembly devoted to children.
- 2002: participation of one member of the GC in the Second World Assembly on Ageing held in Madrid and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Ministerial Conference on Ageing held in Berlin.

For these working sessions, FEFAF drafted motions/statements on the subjects dealt with:

- 1995: recognition of the work involved in looking after the family and bringing up children.
- 1996: training by and for family members.
- 1997: value of unpaid family work.
- 1998: violence.
- 1999: health and old age.
- 2000: violence and economy.
- 2001: economy.
- 2002: elderly women and pensions.

These motions/statements are sent systematically to European negotiators, the European Commission and the Presidency of the European Union, relevant national ministers, certain European and national parliamentarians and relevant NGOs.

They are drafted in collaboration with all members in a joint process of consultation.

The main points of the latest statement (Ageing) were to be found in the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing 2002 and the Berlin Regional Implementation Strategy.

FEFAF made a statement in Geneva (twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly).

FEFAF participated in the work of the Vienna Non-Governmental Organizations Committee on the Family and in the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, and has recently joined the Committee of Non-Governmental Organizations concerned with Ageing (Vienna and Geneva).

FEFAF is also following the work of the Commission on Human Rights (Geneva).

The secretariat regularly answers requests for information and enquiries reaching it through United Nations channels. The membership is kept informed about what is happening at the United Nations through our journals:

- How the institution operates, who does what, where, when and how.
- Subjects to be dealt with during working sessions.
- Outcomes of meetings.

Before and after sessions the working documents are distributed to all members. A summary of the resolutions which have been adopted is made available not only to the members but also to anyone interested.

A network of NGOs (many of which also have observer status with the Economic and Social Council) operates to share information and best-practice solutions and to organize joint campaigns. The network comprises NGOs from all over Europe, North and South America and Africa.

Current problems are the fact that there is no possibility of financing delegations' travelling expenses, the difficulty of finding information (including on the United Nations site), and the virtually exclusive use of English in information exchange. FEFAF's official languages are English and French, and a section of the membership speaks only French. A systematic translation service is beyond our financial means, so part of the information is not accessible to them. The bulk of the work is now done by Internet and e-mail (always in English). These new techniques make it possible to work effectively, but they will never replace direct contact. The secretariat is registered with the Forums Women's Watch and Ageing.

4. World Student Christian Federation

(Special consultative status granted 1970)

Introduction

The World Student Christian Federation is an international association which unites Christian associations or movements of students and other members of the academic community in regions and throughout the world. The Federation currently has 108 national member movements and contact groups in six regions, namely Africa, Asia-Pacific, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, North America and the Middle East. Each region has an office, situated, respectively, in Nairobi, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR) of China, Oslo, Quito and Beirut. North America has one movement in each country, so the regional work is coordinated jointly by the office in Toronto, Canada, and the office in Lawrence, Kansas, United States of America. The number of movements has not increased since the last report.

For the past four years our programmes have been focused on the following areas: development of supervisory skills; women's qualifications; human rights education; globalization and economic justice; initiatives for peace and conflict resolution; critical evaluation of higher education in relation to social, economic and political context; the response of ethics and faith to globalization.

Participation in United Nations programmes and cooperation with the United Nations and associated agencies

As an organization of students, we have a very special interest in the areas covered by the above-mentioned programmes, in education and its influence on students. In this sense the Federation has established links with the United Nations, mainly through the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). For the past four years we have therefore been able to participate in the following:

- A representative of the Federation took part in the meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women, held in New York in March 2001. The Commission dealt with "Women and HIV/AIDS" and "Women and Racism", among other subjects.
- The Federation's representative in New York took part in the twenty-sixth special session of the General Assembly on the human immunodeficiency virus and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS), and was part of a team composed of members of ecumenical organizations which drew up a preliminary draft on HIV/AIDS. Afterwards, an ecumenical consultation was held in Nairobi on the current HIV/AIDS situation in Africa, which resulted in a basic commitment regarding questions relating to HIV among the various student Christian associations in Africa.
- In September 2001, a representative of the Federation in Geneva attended the information meeting held for NGOs by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights concerning the description of the attacks of 11 September 2001 as crimes against humanity. The communiqué was followed by a question-and-answer session during which the High Commissioner defined the United Nations position in relation to the United

States reaction to the attacks. After giving the communiqué some thought, the Federation formulated its own statement against terrorism.

- In the period 1998-2001, the co-Secretary-General also attended, in Geneva, a number of the meetings of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (CONGO).

- The co-Secretary-General attended the fifty-seventh and fifty-eighth sessions of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, held in Geneva, and took part in the debate on the occupation of Palestinian territory organized by the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in consultative relationship with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

- The co-Secretary-General led a delegation of students to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa, in August and September 2001. This project is being followed in collaboration with the World Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations (YMCAs).

- The Federation's representative in France took part in several collective consultations organized at its Paris headquarters by UNESCO following the World Conference on Higher Education.

- The co-Secretary-General led a delegation which took part in the conference of the Society for Research into Higher Education (SRHE) entitled "Globalization and Higher Education: Views from the South", held in Cape Town, South Africa, in March 2001. This conference represents a new contribution to the follow-up to UNESCO's World Conference on Higher Education and received the support of UNESCO and of the Conference itself.

5. International League for Human Rights

(Special consultative status granted 1946)

Introductory statement

The International League for Human Rights was founded in 1942 and has worked for over 60 years to bring human rights issues to the attention of the world community through the United Nations. With the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as its platform, the League assists its partners in the United States of America and abroad to bring human rights issues before the United Nations and other multinational bodies. Since the earliest years of the United Nations, the League has been in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, and is also accredited to the International Labour Organization, the Council of Europe and the African Commission on Human Rights.

The League is a non-governmental non-profit organization that is financed by foundations and individual contributors. It is governed by an international Governing Council of 36 members and receives advice from an International Experts Committee of 14 members. The League has a network of affiliates around the world with whom it works to promote human rights through the United Nations. The League also has a number of partners with whom it works on specific projects.

The League publishes regular bulletins and working papers about its activities and reports on specific human rights situations. Each year, while the General Assembly was in session (1998-2001), the League held regular briefings on topics relevant to the Third Committee for delegates, United Nations staff, and NGOs.

The League's staff in New York represents the League at briefings and meetings relevant to human rights at United Nations Headquarters in New York. The League also sends representatives to specialized United Nations meetings in Geneva and elsewhere.

Participation in the work of the Council and its subsidiary bodies and conferences

The League has a long-standing interest in promoting the work and advancement of human rights through the United Nations. From 1998 to 2001, the League participated annually in the ongoing work of the Commission on Human Rights. Each year, together with some of its affiliates, the League attended the Third Committee debates on human rights and the sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women (1998-2001).

The League took part in the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance in 2001. During preparatory work for the Conference (2000-2001) the League sponsored a series of briefings and conferences in Warsaw and Moscow. In August-September 2001, the League led a delegation of 40 NGOs from the Russian Federation, Eastern Europe, North America, and West Africa, to participate in the World Conference. The League provided a platform for the Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict and the League's Africa Program director to hold a public briefing on racism and children.

League representatives have attended the sessions of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the Committee against Torture and have made oral and written presentations to the members of these bodies (1998-2001). The League has also made oral and written submissions to the Commission on Human Rights and to the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities (1998-2001) on human rights situations and religious intolerance. The League submits relevant country reports to the members of the Human Rights Committee (1999, 2001). The League frequently organizes conferences and meetings on topics of relevance to the United Nations agenda. In 2001, the League supported a series of conferences on women's rights in Nigeria; sponsored Afghan women's NGO delegations at the United Nations; and supported local and international women's groups providing information on the Russian Federation and Uzbekistan to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

The League regularly submits information obtained through its missions, its projects, and its affiliate and partners network to the Centre for Human Rights, including the specialized machinery. In particular, the League has submitted documentation to the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance (1998, 1999), and the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief (1998, 2001). In 2001, the League worked with the Special Representative on Human Rights Defenders whom we briefed and helped prepare for her visit to Central Asia.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

The League has long supported the efforts of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the Secretary-General to increase the capacity of the United Nations to advocate on behalf of children, most recently those in armed conflict. The League strongly supported the appointment of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and has maintained close contacts with that office. Recently, the League assisted in the planning of his visit to the Republic of Chechnya of the Russian Federation. The League's representatives have participated in consultations regarding NGO status and an officer of the League has served as its representative on the Human Rights Committee of the Conference of NGOs in consultative relationship with the United Nations (CONGO).

Other relevant activities

For decades, the League has focused on "defending the defenders", assisting those who advocate for the rights of others, and has met with United Nations officials and NGO leaders to promote adoption of the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, adopted in 1998. During 1998-2001, the League has worked with the United Nations, and other relevant bodies, offering comments on official government reports submitted in compliance with international treaties and covenants, presented reports of human rights violations and proposed remedies. The League has undertaken interventions with Governments and international bodies regarding human rights cases and issues concerning countries including Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Egypt, China, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Nigeria, the Russian Federation, Sierra Leone and Uzbekistan. The League attended relevant United Nations meetings and sponsored oral interventions and briefings and assisted affiliates and partners in presenting their briefs.

The League held a series of conferences in 1999 and 2000 on improving the work of field missions of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, which drew upon the expertise of specialists who had served in United Nations field missions (publication enclosed). The League also participated in the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing by sponsoring participation from women's delegations overseas in the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly. The League regularly takes part in Department of Public Information conferences such as the recent conference on post-conflict societies. League members or affiliates have taken part in the meetings on the formation of the International Criminal Court.

6. United Towns Agency for North-South Cooperation

(Special consultative status granted 1995)

Preliminary note

The President of the organization apologizes to the Committee for a report that may not be absolutely exhaustive and points out that he has been President of the United Towns Agency for North-South Cooperation (UTA) for only a few months.

He took over in February 2001 in the wake of the sad loss of the organization's founding father.

In full recognition of the work accomplished by his predecessor, the new President is seeking to fulfil his duty to further the precise wishes the organization's founder had. His intention is to concentrate, in the spirit of the United Nations, on the three main points which make up the UTA programme:

(a) Defending human rights values while respecting the words of the founding father of the Agency, "Love-Duty-Honour", and giving special attention to persons with a disability;

(b) Encouraging aid and assisting the developing countries, especially with regard to problems related to territory, ecology and water;

(c) Making known and promoting the First Children's Embassy of the World.

During the fifty-seventh session of the Commission on Human Rights, held in Geneva, the President met the Cuban delegation in order to make clear that the Agency had no responsibility regarding the International Council of the Association for Peace in the Continents (ASOPAZCO) case. The dossier is an expansion of the special report previously submitted in January 2001.

UTA obtained its special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council in 1995.

The address of the registered office changed at the time of the Assembly of 9 April 2001. While the goals had been added to, no changes were made to the organization's statutory objectives.

For reasons of reorganization within the Agency, UTA has decided not to make oral statements in commissions and subcommissions, but, in the interests of expediency, only to participate in writing.

Examples of statements:

- Statement on the subject of "Drugs".
- Statement on "Racism yesterday, today and tomorrow".
- Statement on "Globalization and human rights".

The Agency is present in more than 110 countries. In order to brief all our delegations and representatives as promptly as possible on the programmes and aims of the United Nations, the Agency has established a Permanent International Secretariat to Assist Representation and Follow-up.

Activities

(a) Active participation in the sessions of the Commission on Human Rights and its Sub-Commission of the Economic and Social Council; the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE); the conference known as the "Earth Summit"; the United Nations ECE Centre for Facilitation of Practices and Procedures for Administration, Commerce and Transport (CEFACT);

(b) Cooperation with the International Council of Environmental Law (ICEL) for problems related thereto;

(c) Cooperation with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) on the information exchange plan in the context of publications, namely the review "International Cooperation", which was published quarterly up to 1998 as the organization's official organ. It was a large-format colour-photogravure publication of 72 pages, the last edition of which ran to 144 pages and had a print-run of 5,000 copies. The review was widely distributed within departments of the United Nations in Geneva and to diplomatic missions. "International Cooperation" is to be published again as from early 2002, and will be augmented with sections on the work being undertaken by the United Nations;

(d) The Agency has launched an official non-violence and anti-terrorism campaign in cooperation with the International Non-Violence Training Fund which it has agreed to support and promote. A demonstration involving more than 500 people was held in Rome with the participation of a prominent international personality;

(e) Agency press release service: simultaneous transmission of press releases to all NGOs associated with the Agency has resumed;

(f) In 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2002, the Agency continued to promote the action on behalf of populations by launching appeals on topical subjects and offered to participate in international conferences;

(g) As an update to the special report, the Agency notes that it has established relations with:

- Kenya: a drinking-water project and charitable work undertaken in early 2001 in a number of schools for deaf-mutes and orphanages.
- Romania: an orphanage project.
- Congo: schools projects; the Agency has established direct links with the Government through a contract to ensure simple and effective operation.
- Guatemala: collaboration with the Albert Schweitzer Foundation on the construction of three hospitals.
- Benin: the charitable provision of school materials to the Association of Idaasha Schoolchildren.

7. World Federation of the Ukrainian Women's Organizations

(Special consultative status granted 1993)

The World Federation of the Ukrainian Women's Organizations (WFUWO) was founded in November 1948. It is an international federation of 22 non-profit organizations from 12 countries spanning 4 continents. The World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations supports cultural, educational, humanitarian and social programmes, and advocates the advancement of the status of women, their families and chlordane. WFUWO upholds the principles of political and religious tolerance and universal human rights.

During the reporting period, the organization's representatives participated in the yearly session of the Commission on the Status of Women in New York. WFUWO presented a statement at the forty-second session of the Commission on "Trafficking in and enslavement of women", (E/CN.6/1998/NG0/1). The Executive Director attended the forty-sixth session of the Commission in 2002. We have sponsored a representative from the Ukrainian Woman's League in Lviv, who obtained funding from the Soros Foundation in Ukraine. She reported on the forty-sixth session to the Soros Foundation and to her organization in Ukraine, as well as shared the information with other women's groups in Ukraine. The Organization participates in the preparation of statements to the Commission. For example, it submitted a statement together with other organizations through the joined sponsorship of the NGO Committee on the Family, New York, at the forty-sixth session of the Commission.

The representatives of the organization participate in the following NGO Committees:

(a) NGO Committee on the Family, New York. Organization representatives served on the executive committee of the NGO Committee on the Family, New York, during the four years covered by this report. The Organization co-sponsored a statement on the family during the forty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women. Because of the organization's strong interest in the Eastern European region, it has made every effort to raise consciousness and bring awareness of the needs of the countries in transition. For example, on our recommendation, the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations was invited to give a presentation in commemoration of the International Day of Families in 1998, sponsored by the Department of Public Information and the NGO Committee on the Family, New York;

(b) NGO Committee on the Status of Women. A representative of the organization participates in all activities of the Subcommittee on Older Women of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women. We have a strong commitment to the disaggregation of statistics according to gender and age. We believe that with the demographic changes and the anticipated increase in the population of older people, especially women, advocacy is needed in order to ensure fulfilment of human rights for older women. The Subcommittee on Older Women of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women prepared statements on HIV/AIDS, discrimination and older women, older women: environmental and natural disasters, and poverty and older women, as well as briefing papers based on the Beijing Platform for Action. These were used by members of the Subcommittee on Older Women during visits to

missions in order to advocate on behalf of older women. We have also distributed these papers during conferences and meetings. Our representative, who is a member of the Subcommittee on Older Women, participated in all these activities;

(c) NGO Committee on Ageing;

(d) NGO Committee on Health and Communications;

(e) Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations;

(f) NGO Committee on UNICEF. We were granted consultative status with UNICEF in May 1997;

(g) NGO Committee on Freedom of Religion or Belief (until the end of 2001).

We have cooperative relationships with: World Movement of Mothers, International Council of Women, International Alliance of Women, Federation of Women's Clubs, and National Council of Women of Ukraine.

Our organization has participated in yearly Department of Public Information/NGO Conferences, and meetings of the Commission for Social Development, and the Commission on the Status of Women. We have attended the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. We have followed the review of reports presented by States parties. Of special interest to our organization were the reports of countries from Eastern Europe and Ukraine, as we have strong connections with women's organizations in Ukraine. For example, we have met with the Ukrainian delegation to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, as well as with the group that presented the shadow report during review in January 2002.

We attended, on a yearly basis, the International Conferences on Health and the Environment: Global Partners for Global Solutions sponsored by the World Information Transfer and Governments. World Information Transfer is a non-governmental organization with strong interest in environmental issues. Among other themes, these conferences dealt with environmental and health consequences of the Chernobyl disaster.

We have attended the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, 5-9 June 2000. During this session, Governments reaffirmed their commitment to the goals and objectives contained in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995, a conference in which our organization participated. Governments reviewed and appraised progress in the implementation of the Platform for Action, identified new challenges and trends affecting the full implementation of the Platform for Action and agreed upon further actions and initiatives. We attended a number of NGO side events. One of the issues close to our interests was the needs of older women and widows, often invisible and marginalized groups.

The President of the World Federation of the Ukrainian Women's Organizations attended the Second World Assembly on Ageing held in Madrid, April 2002.

The participation of the World Federation of the Ukrainian Women's Organizations in all conferences, and weekly briefings, on a variety of topics

concerning women, children, health, peace, ageing etc., has helped the organization to promulgate the goals and ideals of the United Nations through its member organizations and the publication of articles in the organization's journal, *Ukrainian Women in the World*, as well as in other Ukrainian publications such as *The Ukrainian Weekly*, *Svoboda* and *National Tribune*.

8. World Muslim Congress

(General consultative status granted 1967)

Introduction

The World Muslim Congress (WMC), which was founded in 1926, is the oldest international Muslim organization. It has been in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council since 1967.

WMC fully believes in the Charter of the United Nations and works for world peace on the basis of universal brotherhood, justice and promotion of human rights. It is a non-political organization and strives for interfaith dialogue for the purposes of removing the impediments to international understanding.

As for its constitution, WMC has a President and two Vice-Presidents. The Secretary-General and Finance Secretary are elected for a period of five years by the General Council. WMC has a large number of branches in the world.

Its finances are contributions from members and its budget is audited every year by a recognized firm of chartered accountants. It has permanent representatives to the Commission on Human Rights, Geneva, at United Nations Headquarters, New York, and to the Economic and Social Council, Bangkok.

The President of WMC (Motamar Al Glam Al Islami) and its Secretary-General (Dr. Hamid Ahmed Bin Rifaie) attended an interfaith meeting on 4 and 5 July 2000 in Cairo with a delegation from the Vatican. The same delegation went to Vatican City on 21 and 22 February 2001 and had extensive discussions on bringing interfaith peace and understanding.

The same delegation attended another meeting on 3 and 4 July 2001 which was held under the auspices of the Coordination Committee. This was the 7th meeting of the Coordination Committee.

The President of WMC and the Assistant Secretary-General participated in a three-day meeting in Cairo called by the Organization of Churches of the Middle East.

The WMC Secretary-General attended an Organization of the Islamic Conference Conference of Foreign Ministers in Doha from 12 to 14 November 2000 and presented a memorandum thereat; and attended the meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime from 4 to 15 October 1999 at Vienna.

The WMC Secretary-General delivered a keynote address on the challenges of globalization at United States University Hall, Japan, in May 2000; and attended a four-day Organization of the Islamic Conference Conference of Foreign Ministers in Malaysia from 27 to 30 June 2000.

The Secretary-General submitted a written statement to the fifty-seventh session of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific held in Bangkok, 19 to 25 April 2001; hosted a regional Conference of NGOs in collaboration with the Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat in Islamabad on 30 August 2000; and organized donations for those affected by flash floods in coastal areas of Sindh.

The Secretary-General also organized donations for the Christians affected by flash floods in Islamabad, Pakistan in 2001.

WMC participated through its Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Dr. Malik Sardar Khan, in the Seoul International Conference of NGOs, Seoul, on 16 October 1999; the UNICEF Conference entitled "Global Movement for Children and Youth", 21 May 2000; the Millennium Forum, United Nations, 22-26 May 2000; the fifty-third Annual DPI/NGO Conference on Global solidarity: the way to peace and international cooperation, 20-30 August 2000, and the reception, on 29 August 2000; the World Peace Conference of International Religious and Spiritual Leaders, New York, 29-31 August 2000; and the "Millennium World Peace and Harmony" Interfaith Dialogue, 7 October 2000, Tacoma Park, Maryland.

WMC participated in the following sessions of the Economic and Social Council in Geneva through Mr. Maqbool Ahmad:

(a) Substantive session of 1999, 5-30 July 1999, where its representative made an oral presentation under agenda items 14 (a) "Advancement of women", and 14 (h) "Human rights questions";

(b) Substantive session of 2001, 2-27 July 2001.

WMC participated in the meetings of the following bodies:

(a) Commission on Human Rights:

(i) Fifty-fourth session, 16 March-24 April 1998;

(ii) Fifty-fifth session, 22 March-30 April 1999;

(iii) Fifty-sixth session, 20 March-28 April 2000;

(iv) Fifty-seventh session, 19 March-27 April 2001;

(b) Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights:

(i) Fiftieth session, 3-28 August 1998;

(ii) Fifty-first session, 2-27 August 1999;

(iii) Fifty-sixth session, 31 July-18 August 2000;

(iv) Fifty-third session, 30 July-17 August 2001;

(c) Working Group on Minorities:

(i) Fourth session, 25-29 May 1998;

(ii) Fifth session, 25-31 May 1999;

(iii) Sixth session, 22-26 May 2000;

(iv) Seventh session, 14-18 May 2001;

(d) Seventh workshop on regional cooperation for the protection of human rights in the Asia-Pacific region, New Delhi, 16-18 February 1999;

(e) First, second and third meetings of the Preparatory Committee for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, 2001.

WMC monthly publication

WMC publishes a monthly magazine for the promotion of the objectives of the United Nations and its allied agencies. Its circulation is worldwide.

Other publications

These comprise:

(a) A written statement of the WMC Secretary-General (Motamar Al Alam Al Islami) submitted to the fifty-seventh session of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific held in Bangkok, 19-25 April 2001;

(b) A memorandum presented by Raja Muhammad Zafarul Haq, Secretary-General, WMC, at the twenty-seventh Organization of the Islamic Conference Conference of Foreign Ministers, Malaysia;

(c) Publications on Islam and cultural issues; Islam and the current world; and Islam and the rights of citizens.

9. World Road Association

(Special consultative status granted 1970)

Founded in 1909, the World Road Association was formerly called the Association internationale permanente des Congrès de la Route and changed its name in 1995 following the establishment of its first Strategic Plan. However, it retained its original acronym, PIARC, and made adjustments to its statutes accordingly. It remains a non-political and non-profit-making association. In 1970 it was granted Category II consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. English and French are its two working languages but other languages such as Spanish are used in some forums, including congresses.

The Association's aim is to develop international cooperation and to promote progress in:

- The determination of road transport policies.
- The design, construction, planning and maintenance of roads.
- The operation and management of road networks.
- The transfer of technology, particularly to the developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

At the end of 1997, PIARC comprised 88 member countries, 650 group members and more than 1,000 individual members in about a hundred countries. The member countries are represented by directors of road administrations or their

deputies. The new countries which joined the association between 1994 and 1997 are:

Bolivia, Guatemala, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, South Africa, Mauritius, Republic of Korea, Indonesia, Mongolia, Uzbekistan, Tonga, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Ukraine.

In the period 1994-1997 PIARC had 19 technical committees and working groups comprising experts prominent in their fields, who also undertook missions on behalf of international organizations such as the World Bank, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the United Nations. In the period in question these committees and working groups produced 20 reports which received wide distribution. The reports included a document on reducing natural disasters on roads which gave rise to a seminar held in India in 1996. Several publications have been issued on road safety, as well as a guide, called for by the World Bank, which is intended to help countries design tunnels as an integral part of road networks. The Road Maintenance Manual, the first edition of which was published in English in 1992, has been translated into three other languages — French, Spanish and Portuguese — so as to secure wide distribution in the developing countries. Since 1994 the Association has regularly published a training catalogue aimed at the developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

Members of the committees and working groups also participate with other experts in writing articles for the Association's quarterly review *Routes/Roads*. At the invitation of Quebec, the Association organized its XXth World Road Congress in Montreal in October 1995. Two thousand six hundred people from more than 50 countries took part. The publications prepared for the Congress, along with those of previous congresses, constitute a unique source of information for road specialists all over the world.

In 1995, the association put all its publications, including the reports of the XIXth and XXth Congresses, on a CD-ROM. With the help of the Trust Fund financed by France, 500 copies of CD-ROUTE have been distributed free of charge by the World Bank to developing countries which have requested it. A new edition was published in 1997.

In the same vein, the Association set up its own web site (www.piarc.org) at the end of 1996; it very rapidly became a success and has had a growing number of visitors ever since. The site provides information on the Association's activities, its publications and the main events in which PIARC takes part.

PIARC still has the Special Fund, launched during the preceding period, for financing part of the travel or accommodation expenses of representatives from countries whose annual per capita gross national product (GNP) is lower than US$ 3,100. In addition, member countries directly sponsored representatives from developing countries to enable them to attend the XXth World Road Congress.

In 1994, PIARC's Technical Committee on Technological Exchanges and Development (C3) gave rise to the creation of the World Interchange Network (WIN) by organizing a conference of founding countries in Casablanca. This network is intended to establish contact between practitioners and experts with a view to meeting the needs of the international road community. It relies on the Internet to disseminate expertise in the best possible manner, especially in the

developing countries and countries with economies in transition. In 1995, the government of Quebec hosted WIN and enabled it to expand to its full global dimension with 75 nodes on all continents.

During this period, PIARC strengthened its links with the international organizations with which it cooperates, whose number is given as 80 on the PIARC web site. In particular, in 1997, PIARC, in conjunction with the International Labour Organization, prepared a seminar which was held in Harare the following year on the intensive employment of labour in roadwork and assistance in the establishment of consultancy bureaux and small enterprises in the developing countries. In 1996, the Association also finalized a new version of the "Highway Development and Management System" (HDM-4) software launched by the World Bank and aimed at the technical-economic study of investment problems concerning the construction and maintenance of road networks.

Furthermore, PIARC organized two successive pre-normative experiments which involved about 20 countries in three regions of the world: one on the comparison and harmonization of roadholding measures and road-surfacing texture, which led to a seminar and a report in 1995; the other on the comparison and harmonization of longitudinal and transverse road profiling measures which was launched in 1996 and should shortly generate a final report.

In conclusion, the World Road Association is recognized as a neutral forum for the exchange of experience among road professionals. Apart from the 18 new member countries, the Association made possible the creation, in the period 1994-1997, of regional councils of directors of roads such as the Council of Ibero-American Directors of Roads and the Club of Directors of Roads of the Countries of Western Europe and that of Directors of Roads of Eastern Europe.

By formulating its objectives and areas of expertise more clearly in its Strategic Plan, PIARC is taking better account of developments in the world socio-economic context in order to respond to the needs of the international road transport community.